

RESOLUTION NO. _____, SERIES 2010

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LOUISVILLE METRO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS'S INITIATIVES TO CREATE AN EDUCATION PROGRAM TO MAKE THE PUBLIC AWARE OF THE DANGERS OF TRANS FATS CONSUMPTION, TO INSTITUTE A VOLUNTARY CAMPAIGN FOR FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS TO REMOVE TRANS FATS FROM THEIR MENUS AND TO ESTABLISH A REWARDS PROGRAM FOR THOSE ENTITIES WHO DISCONTINUE USING AND/OR COOKING WITH TRANS FATS.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMAN DAN JOHNSON

WHEREAS, it is an essential function, duty and responsibility of the Council to adequately safeguard the health of all its citizens, and to establish, maintain, implement, promote and conduct appropriate facilities and services for the purpose of protecting the public health; and

WHEREAS, scientific evidence demonstrates a clear association between increased trans fat intake and the risk of coronary heart disease; and

WHEREAS, it has been scientifically determined that most dietary fat is found in partially hydrogenated vegetable oil, which is oil that has been chemically modified; and

WHEREAS, given the scientific consensus on the relationship between trans fat intake and heart disease, the new Federal Dietary Guidelines recommend that trans fat intake be kept as low as possible; and

WHEREAS, artificial trans fat can be replaced with readily available heart-healthy oils (such as corn, canola, and soy), without changing the taste of foods; and

WHEREAS, federal regulations have led to widespread reformulation of packaged foods, demonstrating the feasibility of removing trans fat from virtually all foods; and

WHEREAS, many companies such as Kraft, Frito-Lay, Smuckers and Tyson Foods have already made the switch to trans fat-free product lines; and

WHEREAS, some restaurant chains such as Wendy's restaurants, now fry with trans fat-free oils; and

WHEREAS, KFC and Taco Bell, units of Yum Brands, Inc., have announced that they will switch to a non trans-fat cooking oil in all their U.S. restaurants; and

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to support the Louisville Metro Health and Wellness Department's initiative to create an education program to inform the public of the dangers of the in-take of trans fats; and

WHEREAS, the Council further wishes to support the Louisville Metro Health and Wellness Department's voluntary campaign to encourage local establishments to cook without the use of trans fat oils as has already been demonstrated by other national companies and chains, as set forth above; and

WHEREAS, the Council agrees with the Louisville Metro Health and Wellness Department's plan to establish a rewards program for those food establishments who voluntarily change to cooking without trans fat oils.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT (THE COUNCIL) AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: The Council hereby supports the Louisville Metro Health and Wellness Department's initiative to create an education program for the public regarding the dangers of consuming trans fats.

SECTION II: The Council also supports the Louisville Metro Health and Wellness Department's plan to start a voluntary campaign for food service establishments to cease cooking with trans fat oils and to offer rewards for those businesses that voluntarily move to the preparation and service of trans fat free foods.

SECTION III: The Council supports the Louisville Metro Health and Wellness Department's recommendation to conduct a survey to determine how prevalent the cooking with trans fats is in local food service establishments.

SECTION IV: The Council further supports the Louisville Metro Board of Health's consideration of promulgating regulations to require food service establishments to set forth which menu items they offer for sale contain trans fats.

SECTION V: This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

Kathleen J. Herron
Metro Council Clerk

Thomas L. Owen
President of the Council

Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor

Approval Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Michael J. O'Connell
Jefferson County Attorney

BY: _____

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